

# NH DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES HISTORIC CONTEXT LIST

*(Updated June 2006)*

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A historic context is an organizational tool for grouping properties related through their histories by theme, place and time. The Division of Historical Resources has assembled a broad list of historic contexts most commonly uncovered in the state's properties and history. By their nature, some of these contexts apply to only a portion of New Hampshire; more apply to the entire state, which is small enough and homogeneous enough that while certain activities are necessarily confined to certain parts, there are not significant enough differences to warrant a spatially or chronologically segmented theme. The Division maintains research files on each of the contexts and also enters surveyed properties into a database by context. This information is available to researchers investigating not only a certain theme, such as shoemaking, but also considering a single property that may relate to others with a shared history, such as shoe shops.

This list does not represent all of the historical research topics that could be pursued in New Hampshire. Instead, it reflects the historic contexts illustrated by the properties in the Division of Historical Resources' survey files. By nature, it evolves as more survey work is completed. An updated version may be available by contacting the Division.

## THE CONTEXTS

### Exploration and Settlement

1. Early exploration of the NH seacoast, 1400-1630.
2. First settlements on the NH seacoast, 1623-1660.
3. Early exploration and settlement in the interior of NH, 1623-1770.
4. The granting of land and towns, 1623-1835.

### Military

5. The French and Indian Wars in NH.
6. Revolutionary New Hampshire.
7. The Civil War in New Hampshire.
8. World War I in NH.
9. World War II in NH.
10. NH's coastal defenses, 1775-present.
11. The Cold War in New Hampshire.
12. New Hampshire's early militia and the National Guard.

### Maritime History

13. Fishing on the NH Seacoast and the Isles of Shoals, 1660-present.
14. Wooden shipbuilding on the NH seacoast, 1630-1920.
15. Modern shipbuilding on the NH seacoast, 1900-present.
16. Shipwrecks in NH waters, 1620-1940. (E) (authors: Parker Potter and David Switzer)
17. New Hampshire's inland lighthouses. (E) (authors: Parker Potter and Greg Clancey)

### Industry

18. Locally capitalized textile mills in NH, 1720-1920.
19. NH textile mills capitalized by out-of-state interests, 1826-1920.
20. The Amoskeag Mills in Manchester, 1831-1945.
21. The hosiery industry in New Hampshire, 1830-1970.
22. Logging, lumbering and saw mills, 1620-present.
23. Wood products mills and shops in New Hampshire.
24. Paper manufacturing and making in New Hampshire.
25. Large-scale furniture production.
26. Small-scale furniture (cabinet) making.

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### **Industry (cont.)**

27. Barrel making and commercial cooperages in New Hampshire, c.1807-1850.
28. Iron smelting and founding, 1715-present.
29. Mineral mining, 1770-present.
30. Granite quarrying and stone cutting, 1790-present.
31. Commercial ice making, 1870-1920.
32. Mineral springs and bottling plants in New Hampshire, 1880-present.
33. General outwork/home manufacture in NH, 1840-1920.
34. Localized shoemaking, 1623-1900.
35. Heavily capitalized (factory) shoemaking, 1820-1940.
36. Shoemaking outwork/home manufacture, 1830-1920.
37. Outwork/home manufacture of hats and clothing, 1870-1920.
38. Metalworking in New Hampshire for local and regional markets, 1630-present.
39. Brick making for local and regional markets, 1650-1920.
40. The pottery industry, 1700-1900.
41. Brewing and distilling, 1700-1920.
42. Glassmaking, 1780-1920.
43. Hand tool manufacturing, 1800-1920.
44. Machine tool manufacture, 1840-present.
45. Precision machine shops, 1820-present.
46. Carriage and wagon manufacture, 1820-1900.
47. Heavy manufacturing, 1850-present.
48. Tanneries and leather board manufacturing in New Hampshire.
49. Musical instrument production in New Hampshire.
50. Tobacco pipe production in New Hampshire.

### **Agriculture**

51. Mixed agriculture and the family farm, 1630-present.
52. Salt marsh farming in New Hampshire, 1630-present.
53. Grain farming and grist milling, 1650-present.
54. Orchards and cider production, 1650-present.
55. Maple sugar and syrup production, 1650-present.
56. Local-scale dairy farming, 1800-present.
57. Potato farming, 1800-present.
58. The sheep craze, 1820-1870.
59. Silk culture and silk production, 1840-1860.
60. Turkey raising in New Hampshire for urban markets, c.1850-c.1910.
61. Cattle raising and summer pasturing in New Hampshire, c.1850-present.
62. Meat processing and marketing in New Hampshire.
63. Creamery operations, 1860-present.
64. Poultry farming, 1870-present.
65. Dairy farming for urban markets, 1880-1940.
66. Farm revitalization by Finns in the Monadnock Region, 1880-1940.
67. Market gardening / truck farming in New Hampshire, 1900-present.
68. Horticulture in New Hampshire, 1910-present.
69. Flax and linen production, 1650-present.

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## **Entertainment and Recreation**

- 70. Summer resort/grand hotel tourism, 1840-1940. (P) (author: Deborah Noble)
- 71. New Hampshire as artists' colony, 1870-present. (P) (author: Lisa Mausolf)
- 72. Boarding house tourism, 1875-1920.
- 73. Summer and vacation home tourism, 1880-present.
- 74. Summer colonies in New Hampshire, 1840-present.
- 75. Summer camps for children, 1890-present.
- 76. Winter recreation and the ski industry, 1890-present.
- 77. Parks, amusement parks, zoos and waterfront recreation in New Hampshire, 1880-present.
- 78. Outdoor recreation in New Hampshire.
- 79. Theaters, opera houses, and movie houses in New Hampshire.
- 80. Museums and historical sites in New Hampshire.
- 81. New Hampshire State Parks, Sites and Forests.

## **Transportation**

- 82. Pre-automobile land travel, 1630-1920.
- 83. Taverns, inns, hotels, motels, motor courts and bed and breakfasts, 1623-present.
- 84. Transportation on the lakes, 1760-present.
- 85. River and canal navigation, 1790-1890 (P) (author: Lisa Mausolf)
- 86. The railroads in NH, 1842-1960. (F) (authors: R. Stuart Wallace and Lisa Mausolf)
- 87. Street railroads in New Hampshire, 1880-1950.
- 88. Automobile highways and culture, 1900-present.
- 89. Aviation in New Hampshire.

## **Communications and Utilities**

- 90. Water supply, distribution and treatment in New Hampshire, 1850-present.
- 91. Gasoline and oil distribution in New Hampshire, 1900-present.
- 92. Hydropower in New Hampshire.
- 93. Electricity generation and distribution in New Hampshire.
- 94. Communications in New Hampshire.

## **Professions**

- 95. Medicine and hospitals in New Hampshire.
- 96. The practice of law in New Hampshire.
- 97. Engineering in New Hampshire, 1623-present.
- 98. Architecture in New Hampshire, 1623-present.
- 99. Banking and finance in New Hampshire.
- 100. Writing and publishing in New Hampshire.
- 101. The service industries in New Hampshire.
- 102. Social services in New Hampshire.
- 103. The food industry in New Hampshire.

## **Education**

- 104. Higher education, 1770-present.
- 105. Elementary and secondary education, 1770-present.
- 106. Libraries in New Hampshire.

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## **Politics and Government**

- 107. Local government, 1630-present.
- 108. County government in New Hampshire, 1771-present.
- 109. State government, 1680-present.
- 110. The federal government in New Hampshire, 1776-present.
- 111. Fighting the Depression in New Hampshire: The CCC, WPA, and other public works programs, 1929-1940.

## **Social History and Political Movements**

- 112. Philanthropy, 1850-present.
- 113. Historic preservation, 1899-present (E). (authors: James Garvin and Parker Potter).
- 114. Women's organizations and the suffrage movement in New Hampshire.
- 115. Social organizations in New Hampshire.
- 116. Freemasonry in New Hampshire.
- 117. The anti-slavery movement in New Hampshire.
- 118. The Grange in New Hampshire, 1870-present.
- 119. Cultural and community traditions, practices, arts and crafts.

## **Religion**

- 120. Religion in New Hampshire, 1623-present.
- 121. The Shakers in NH, 1795-present.
- 122. Camp meetings in New Hampshire, 1860-present.

## **Ethnic Heritage**

- 123. Post-Colonial Native American Indian Acculturation and Revitalization, 1780-present.
- 124. The African-Americans in New Hampshire.
- 125. The Scots-Irish and Ulster-Scots in New Hampshire.
- 126. The French-Canadians in NH, 1840-present.
- 127. The Irish in New Hampshire.
- 128. European and Middle Eastern immigration to New Hampshire.

## **Commerce, Community Planning, Cultural Landscapes**

- 129. Commerce, industry and trade in New Hampshire cities, 1630-present.
- 130. Commerce, industry and trade in New Hampshire village and town centers, 1630-present.
- 131. Suburban/bedroom community growth in New Hampshire, c.1850-present.
- 132. Post-World War II industrial expansion in New Hampshire.
- 133. Town and county planning and surveying.
- 134. Landscapes and their designs in New Hampshire.
- 135. The land conservation movement in New Hampshire.
- 136. Public and private cemeteries and burials.

## **Archaeology**

- 1100. Pre-Columbian European exploration and settlement.
- 1101. First (Paleo-Indian) occupations.
- 1102. Native American Indian lithic technology (P) (author: Richard Boisvert)
- 1103. Native American Indian ceramic technology.
- 1104. Native American Indian agriculture.
- 1105. Native American Indian mortuary practice.
- 1106. Native American Indian riverine adaptation/exploitation.

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### **Archaeology (cont.)**

- 1107. Native American Indian upland adaptation.
- 1108. Native American Indian coastal adaptation.
- 1109. Native American Indian adaptation in the Northern marshlands.
- 1110. Post-Columbian Native American Indian contact with Europeans.
- 1111. Native American Indian lacustrine adaptation.
- 1112. Pre-Columbian Native American Indian cultures.
- 1113. Pre-Columbian cultural chronology.